

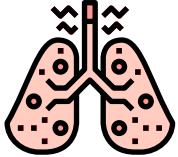
# COVID-19

## Your questions answered



### What should you know?

- Anyone can catch the COVID-19 sickness.
- COVID-19 sickness is a serious illness that can make you very sick and may cause death.
- There are new vaccines to help protect you against COVID-19 sickness.
- It is important that you and your family are vaccinated by the health centre nurses.
- No one will make you have the vaccine, but we ask you and your family to be vaccinated.
- The vaccine will not give you the COVID-19 sickness.



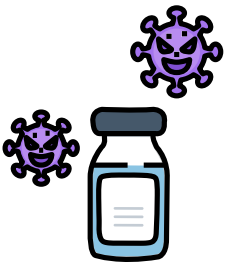
### Why should I get the vaccine?

- Having the COVID-19 vaccine and getting immunised will help you protect yourself, your family and your community.
- People living in communities have always been vaccinated for disease like the flu.
- It is important that you get this vaccine as well.
- COVID-19 vaccines are free for all adults.
- Children under 16 cannot be vaccinated yet. This is not a high risk group and older people are more at risk to catch the COVID-19 sickness.
- You can get the COVID-19 vaccine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Ask your local health clinic if you have any questions about getting the vaccine.



### What vaccine will I get?

- There are different types of the vaccine, and you need two doses to make sure you are protected against the COVID-19 sickness.
- It is very important that you stay in community so you can be vaccinated.
- The vaccine is given by an injection into your upper arm by a health centre nurse who has been specially trained to give this vaccine.
- Vaccines work to strengthen your body against the COVID-19 sickness.
- If you come into contact with the COVID-19 sickness after you have been vaccinated, your body will remember it and will work to stop the sickness from developing.
- You are far less likely to catch the disease if you have been vaccinated.



### What happens after I have the COVID-19 vaccine?

- There are some common side effects after having the vaccine, including pain or swelling at the injection site on your arm, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever and joint pain.
- These side effects are usually mild and usually go away within one to two days.
- If you experience common side effects after getting the vaccine, you can take Paracetamol or Ibuprofen to help reduce the symptoms.
- If you do have a reaction, like difficulty breathing, wheezing, a fast heartbeat, bad ongoing headaches or collapsing, please contact the health centre.
- If you are worried about side effects or have symptoms, please contact the health centre.



### What else do I need to know?

- You can bring a family member with you when you have the vaccine.
- Your vaccine information will be recorded with Government health records.
- You will still need to have a flu vaccination in the lead up to the flu season.
- It is recommended you wait 7 days between the COVID-19 vaccination and the flu vaccination.
- If you are feeling worried or upset, speak to the health centre nurses.

